

**March 11, 2022**

**Subject:** MaineCare Behavioral Health Rate Studies

Dear provider,

I am sending this email on behalf of MaineCare Director, Michelle Probert.

MaineCare is getting started on rate studies for a number of behavioral health related sections of the MaineCare Benefits Manual (MBM), with the goal of implementing new rates in 2023.

You are receiving this email because we would like you to participate in one or more informal provider advisory groups related to this work. These groups will meet several times beginning at the end of this month and extending through the summer. Please note that there will also be opportunities for broader provider and public input and comment on these rate studies.

Because the scope of services under these MBM sections is so wide, the work is being conducted under four separate tracks, with four separate advisory groups:

1. Crisis Services (1<sup>st</sup> meeting TBD)
2. Case Management and Care Coordination Services (1<sup>st</sup> meeting Mon Mar 28, 2-330)
  - Targeted Case Management, Section 13
  - Behavioral Health Homes, Section 92
  - Community Integration, Section 17
3. Adult and Children Outpatient & School Health-Related Services: Section 65 (1<sup>st</sup> meeting Tues Mar 29, 12-130)
4. Community-Based MH and SUD Services (1<sup>st</sup> meeting Fri Apr 1, 12-130)
  - Rehab & Community Support for Children with Cognitive Impairments and Functional Limitations, Section 28
  - Clubhouse, Children's ACT, HCT, Disruptive Behavior Disorders, Section 65
  - CRS, DLS, Skills, Day Support, Adult ACT, Section 17

We selected the organizations we are inviting to serve on these advisory groups – which include around 20 organizations per group -- with the goal of providing a representative sample of providers for each track, including characteristics such as size, geographic distribution, and specialized versus comprehensive array of services.

These advisory groups will serve as sounding boards about the process of the rate studies. For example, they will be asked to review drafts of the provider survey before it is released to ensure that the terminology is appropriate, that it captures all relevant costs, etc. Ideally, advisory group members will coordinate with their colleagues across organizations to ensure that the groups represent the overall provider networks. The meetings will be recorded so that any interested stakeholders can review the discussions.

All providers and stakeholders (i.e., not just those on the advisory groups) will have an opportunity to provide input into the rate studies and to offer feedback on any recommendations resulting from the

studies. For example, all providers will have the opportunity to complete the survey pertaining to their costs and other aspects of service delivery. Additionally, there will be a public session during which recommendations are presented for comment and question before any changes to rates are finalized.

Advisory group meetings will begin with a single 90-minute kickoff meeting Mon Mar 28 from 12-130 that will include three of the four advisory groups (the crisis group will be on a separate schedule), followed by separate meetings for each track (dates above). It is possible that you may receive invitations for more than one track, based on the services you provide.

Please be on the lookout for invitations from me within the next hour. We hope that you are able to participate and look forward to working with you.

If you have questions, please reach out to MaineCare Rate Setting Manager [Peter Kraut](#).

**Michelle S. Probert**

**Director**

**Office of MaineCare Services**

Pronouns: she/her/hers